

ChildFund International
Humanitarian Situation Report 7
COVID-19 – Ecuador
April 29, 2020

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 March 17, 2020- April 29, 2020

Part 1: The Overall Situation

ECUADOR

Total Number of COVID-19 Cases Reported	Number of Deaths	Number of Cases Recuperated
24.675	883	1.525
SOURCE: https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/bda7594740fd40299423467b48e9ecf6		

ChildFund-supported areas (Provide only if you have reliable data on this. You can report on a consolidated basis or by program state/region/province/etc. if you have this detail.)

Geographical area (country or state/region/province)	Total Number of COVID19 Cases Reported	Number of Deaths	Number of Cases Recuperated
Carchi	49	5	No available information
Imbabura	81	9	No available information
Pichincha	1351	66	No available information
Cotopaxi	90	19	No available information
Tungurahua	157	17	No available information
SOURCE: https://www.gestionderiesgos.gov.ec/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Informe-de-Situaci%C3%B3n-No024-Casos-Coronavirus-Ecuador-31032020.pdf			

The most affected province in Ecuador is Guayas located on the coast of the country. This province has 64,5% of the cases. ChildFund Ecuador has no coverage in this province. Ecuador is in a national emergency; the country is implemented a curfew from 14h00 to 5h00 and Guayas province is defined as security zone.

Ecuador National Government has designed a strategy to decrease community transmission in some provinces and avoid it in others. The strategy includes among others the following actions:

- Mandatory quarantine and restrictions on internal and external mobility including border closure
- Public services closure except health, safety and risk services
- Face to Face working hours suspension except health, agriculture, livestock and animal care industry
- Trade suspension except businesses to acquire food, medicine, animal feed, financial services, exportations and telecommunications

- Restaurant and coffee shops are suspended, except for home deliveries.
- Ecuadorian Government ask the Humanitarian Country Team to activate.
- National and local government support low-income families with cash transfer and food kit deliveries initiatives
- On April 10, the Ministry of Energy and Non-Renewable Natural Resources confirmed that Ecuador has declared force majeure on its oil exports due to the rupture of the two pipelines that transport national crude
- Since Monday May 4, government will implement traffic light restrictions according to territories affectation. Traffic lights are local government decisions and restriction will depend on the traffic lights of each province.
- Government is creating a pilot plan to open industries gradually, the first one is construction sector.
- Ecuador government present law projects related to reducing working hours and wages proportionally to hours worked, for up to two years, and with the option of renewing for up to two more years.
- According to official calculations, because of the crisis caused by the Covid-19, almost 508,000 people in Ecuador could be left without work and another 233,000 enter informality.
- Law projects also includes measures related to define companies and citizens contribution to the crisis with a part of their salaries for the next 9 months.
- Government announce that in next weeks will take more economic measures because of Covid 19 crisis and the economic crisis related to oil cost decrease.

Part 2: The Situation in Areas Where ChildFund Works

Partner Organization (Use Salesforce identifying code/name.)	# of Enrolled and Sponsored Children		COVID19 Cases Reported in ChildFund Communities (Y/N/Unknown) Provide number if available.	Number of Enrolled Children Reported with COVID19 (If available.)	Number of enrolled children diseased as result of COVID19
	Sponsored	Enrolled			
FEDACC 1314	2760	3507	7	0	No available information
FOCI 477	2548	2947	4	0	No available information
FONAP 1309	2075	2181	89	0	No available information
FENPIDEC 4063	2804	3479	15	0	No available information
CACTU 2679 y 4068	4546	5588	7	0	No available information

Source: <https://coe-pichincha.senescyt.gob.ec/>

https://twitter.com/Salud_Ec/status/1255623217764540416/photo/3 - Infografía 63

Child deaths: List any sponsored child (with Partner organization and child ID from salesforce) diseased as a result of COVID19. (Note: These need to be reported immediately following the regular sponsorship protocols.)

Partner Organization (Use Salesforce identifying code/name.)	What is the status of the program/sponsorship processes (operational/suspended)?					
	Program Implementation	CVS	M&E Level 2	Enrollment /Disaffiliation	Sponsorship Communication	DFC
FEDACC 1314	Suspended	Suspended	Suspended	Enrollment Suspended Disaffiliation Operational	Suspended	Partially Operational
FOCI 477	Suspended	Suspended	Suspended	Enrollment Suspended Disaffiliation Operational	Suspended	Partially Operational
FONAP 1309	Suspended	Suspended	Suspended	Enrollment Suspended Disaffiliation Operational	Suspended	Partially Operational
FENPIDEC 4063	Suspended	Suspended	Suspended	Enrollment Suspended Disaffiliation Operational	Suspended	Operational
CACTU 2679 y 4068	Suspended	Suspended	Suspended	Enrollment Suspended Disaffiliation Operational	Suspended	Partially Operational

Note: As a global measure, all sponsor visits have been suspended.

The National Government ordered the suspension of classes in the schools and the opening of digital platforms. School remains closed.

Child Protection Issues:

Affecting the Right to Education. several children and adolescents are not familiar with those platforms. Online education has not been a topic of work in schools.

Internet risks: Linked to the previous topic, in the absence of digital education, girls, boys and adolescents are exposed to inappropriate messages in the use of social networks.

Affecting the Right to Health: the elderly population or adults with pre-existing diseases are considered a high-risk group. However, children and adolescents living in conditions of poverty and extreme poverty and who are malnourished may be populations at high risk for the coronavirus.

Child labor: Girls, boys and adolescents are at risk of being exposed to high levels of child labor in their families in the absence of access to educational regulatory processes or the proper use of free time. Reducing the economic activity of families can increase this risk.

Affecting the Right to Healthy Food: Affecting the right to healthy food. Due to declining families' income and limited access to food, children and adolescents are affected their right to healthy food, especially in the first life stage, nursing children and pregnant women.

Affecting the right to protection against violence: confinement, loss of livelihoods, lack of food and economic resources begin to cause situations of domestic violence in some families.

Affecting psychological health: Due to the loss of caregivers and other family members, children are emotionally affected.

Unlike other emergency contexts, in the current scenario there is a risk of having insufficient data to provide specific support.

Part 3: ChildFund's Response

3.a. Overall

- CO has activated the **DRR Team effective** March 16 to managing the response leading by Country Office Director.
- On March 17, **Humanitarian Country Team** activated education, health, shelter and Wash clusters.
- ChildFund Ecuador participates in **Education Cluster** called by UNICEF and sent materials produced for share with Ministry of Education. CO will provide content from program models to include in digital, radio and TV production. The Ministry of Education launched a web site with digital resources for students and ask support to the International Cooperation in order to create content for TV and radio broadcast so ChildFund will produce radio material with key messages about ECD, scripts are being designed. Last meeting: April 20, UNICEF communicated to ChildFund that its resources will be disseminated through Coordinator of Educational Popular Radio of Ecuador (CORAPE in its Spanish acronym) and Iberoamerican Institute of Natural and Cultural Heritage (INPAC in its Spanish acronym).
Participation ChildFund: Leonor Fernandez, Child Protection Specialist.
- ChildFund Ecuador participates in **Food Security Cluster** called by the World Food Program. In the first meeting, WFP presented the objectives of the working group to be accomplish during the emergency. WFP asked NGOs for information about their work related to food security support and/or the transfer of cash. Since April 21, the donations made by ChildFund have been published in the 3W Platform coordinated by the United Nations agency Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs -OCHA-.
Participation ChildFund: Leonor Fernandez, Child Protection Specialist.
- ChildFund Ecuador participates in **Child Protection Group** called by UNICEF. In the first meeting, all organizations expressed their concerns regarding the situation of children in Ecuador. Public institutions (MIES and CNII) explained their work with children in the current context. ChildFund has been invited by UNICEF to be part of the coordination team for psychological support with HIAS and Catholic University of Ecuador. ChildFund was invited by UNICEF to present in a virtual meeting –on Apr 16- its initiative of psychosocial support at the community level to 40 civil society and state organizations.

Participation ChildFund: Leonor Fernandez, Child Protection Specialist.

- CO contacted to Ministry of Health who explained they are drafting a communication to send to International NGOs asking for support with specific supplies. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent a call to cooperate with supplies and equipment for hospitals and food kits which will be distributed by the Ministry of social and economic inclusion. CO is analyzing feasibility to cooperate. CO has sent a list of specific supplies needed to IO.
- ChildFund in alliance with Plan International and CARE presented a proposal to Futuro's Business Group to implement cash transfers in communities where the organization work. The proposal has been approved by the "Fideicomiso Por Todos"
- Meeting with "Fundación Jesús Divino Preso" to raise funds that will be invested in food kits to communities.

3.b. Program Response

3.b.1. Stop COVID-19 from infecting children and families

- CO and local partners disseminate messages in social media about protocols for prevention of COVID-19.
- LP in Imbabura is supporting to Health District to print informative banners with protocols to prevent COVID-19 contagion, these materials were used by health workers to sensitize the population
- Support Nanegalito local government carried out fumigation in all the neighborhoods of the parish to reduce risks of COVID-19 contagion.
- With the support of P&G CO will deliver protection implements to medical personnel in hospitals; 3,500 personal hygiene kits in coordination with Ministry of Social and Economic Inclusion approximately 565,000 sachets for water purification in the provinces of Guayas and Los Rios in coordination with SENAGUA (Government Institution), and 60.000 USD for protective equipment for health workers. An agreement with SENAGUA and P&G are being drafted . The first 20.000 USD were transferred to IO and the purchase process for protection implements has started

3.b.2. Ensure that children get food they need

- ChildFund is leading an alliance with Plan International, CARE and Futuro's Business Group to implement cash transfers in communities where the organization work. The proposal has been approved by the "Fideicomiso Por Todos" and cash transfers began this week.
- LPs have prioritized vulnerable communities in their territories for the delivery of food and hygiene kits, which will be delivered in coordination with local authorities.
- LPs have prioritized vulnerable families in their territories for the transfer of cash in the amount of \$ 60 per month for two months, which will be delivered through banking services.
- Jesus Divino Preso Foundation approved and transferred to ChildFund 5.000 USD for food and hygiene kits.

3.b.2. 1. Cash Transfers and vouchers as part of COVID19 response?

- Pichincha Bank approved a bank account for ChildFund in order to use the bank platform for SMS cash transfer mechanism.
- Fideicomiso POR TODOS approved ChildFund proposal for 333.360 USD for cash transfer to 2.712 families of prioritized communities where ChildFund have operations. The amount of US\$ 166.680

were transferred to ChildFund account effective April 15. The rest of the funding will be provided in the next 2 or 3 days. **This week the first 922 families receive the cash transfer**

- CO Procedures for Cash transfer aligned with Cash transfer principles were developed by the SMT with support of the Auditor Global Assurance for Americas.

Beneficiaries		Amount transferred (US\$)	Transfer mechanism (i.e. mobile money, banking system other financial service provider etc,
Total	<i>Gender (if available)</i>		
	Female	Male	
922	-	-	110.640 Backing system

3.b.3. Keep children safe from Violence: physically and emotionally

- CO and local partners disseminate messages in social media about violence prevention in the families and information about how to prevent child violence online.
- LPs have socialized information with communities about access to health and education in an emergency context through SMS and WhatsApp groups. Furthermore, LPs have sent messages to prevent violence and promote care. All the information has been validated, simplified and shared through the different communication channels.
- **Local partners staff will provide psychological first aid to people who required it in the crisis. 63 members of local partners teams were training in psychological first aids through virtual capacity building workshops. Since April 29, local partners have started giving psychosocial support to people who ask for it. In this activity, community networks will help identify families who request it.**
- Local partners are producing streaming radio programs about psicological support, one of them in coordination with Education Ministry.

3.b.4. Help children continue to do their job: Learning

- A pilot to use a virtual classroom with programs model contents is being implemented and will be evaluated to scale.
- Radio programs about ECD are being produced and local partners are producing streaming radio programs about psicological health for children.
- In conjunction with the Fundación Telefónica and the Ministry of Education, an online training process will be developed that will allow the educational community to be trained in the use of techno-pedagogical resources and to impact on the teaching-learning process in Ecuador. This initiative will benefit to 50.000 teachers.

Below Sections for Internal Use Only

Part 4: Office and Staff Status

Office Status (Open/Closed)	Number of Staff:				
	Diagnosed with COVID19	Diseased from COVID19	Working from Office	Working from Home	On Special Leave
Closed	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>0</u>

Notes:

- Any cases of staff diseased need to be reported immediately to RD and GHR.
- Special leave as per [COVID19 Administrative Guidelines](#).

Number of staff/partner organization staff completed WHO COVID online training: Until now 10 people have completed the training.

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/training/online-training>.

Part 5 Human Resources

Human Resources issues not presented

Part 6 Safety & Security

Pedestrian and vehicular restrictions decreed last month are still in force. There are no schools or presential work. People can go out exceptionally for groceries and medicine purchases. Despite of this measure, the supply of food and necessities is developed normally since the circulation and work of those who produce and sell these inputs, are allowed. Restaurants are working only with home deliveries, under orders by phone or through mobile applications, with electronic invoicing and product delivery in compliance with strict sanitary regulations. In the last weeks, companies that produce or market office supplies and stationery as well as vehicle maintenance have started operations under the same regime that applies to restaurants, since there is a wide need for these services. The Armed Forces and the Police carry out permanent controls to avoid crowds and control mobility restrictions within the country.

Since the governmental decree, in force since Tuesday 17th, workers from the Judiciary Council are implementing remote work. The only units operating in normal conditions are flagrancy units for addressing criminal cases, gender violence and adolescent offenders.

There are not available reports of criminality. However, according to information spread in mass media, misdemeanors such as assault and robbery are targeted mainly to people who attend food supply centers.

Military personal are being deployed to patrol at national level and mainly in Guayaquil city where is the highest number of reported cases (7391 cases)

Most of the staff is in Quito (856 cases) where the pandemic has not reached the highest level. Till now, all staff is working from home and there are no reported cases of COVID19 among the staff or their families.

Safety and security risks/mitigation plans has not been updated to current environment.

It is not clear yet neither the scope of the pandemic nor the time that will take us return to the everyday life so, guidelines and recommendations could be given once the country recovers the normality.

Due to governmental decree, in force since Tuesday 17th, all public and private workers are implementing remote work. Field visits are banned. All staff is working from home and there are no reported cases of COVID19 among the staff. In order to ensure the continuity of operations and reduce the impact of the emergency, people have adequate equipment and TI ensured the access to their information remotely. CO staff was provided with unlimited cellphone plans including internet access.

Psychological support for handle stress due to forced quarantine will be developed. Meanwhile a “virtual cafeteria” has been organized in daily bases, so Staff can connect virtually to socialize.

Part 7 Grants

List all active grants:

Grant Job Code	Grant Name	Donor	Status of Implementation (Normal/Reduced/Suspended)	Any specific guidance received from donor? (Yes/No)
24-089D	ProFuturo	Telefónica Foundation	Reduced	Reschedules activities

ProFuturo program financed by Telefónica Ecuador Foundation has been modified focusing their activities in train to teachers in the use of digital tools for education in coordination with the Ministry of Education, there are more than 25.000 teachers enrolled in the different courses available.

Part 8 Funding

Provide information about potential sources of funding, including grant donors, subsidy, Emergency Action Fund, Alliance members, GIK, etc., for these emergency response efforts using the chart below:

Donor	Program	Amount (USD)	Requested? (Y/N)	Confirmed? (Y/N)
Unicef	Education	TBD	<u>N</u>	<u>N</u>
Fideicomiso Por Todos	Cash transfer	US 333.360	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>
Jesus Divino Preso	Food Kits	US 5.000	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>
Procter & Gamble	Personal hygiene kits, sachets for water purification and protective equipment for health workers.	3,500 personal hygiene kits 567,000 sachets for water purification US. 60.000 USD for protective	<u>Y</u>	<u>Y</u>

		equipment for health workers.		
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Budget

- No information

Part 9 Media/Communications

Ecuador country office has a press released about ChildFund response to the emergency and it will be disseminated to mass media this week.

Guides for collecting photos, videos or stories was shared to local partners as part of accountability for donors.

Messages about COVID-19 prevention and child protection are being posted in social media.

In coalition with international and national organizations, ChildFund will develop a strategy to evaluate Ecuador compliance to the CRC measures to protect child rights in the emergency.

In coordination with Plan International, CARE, World Vision and KNH, ChildFund will present a communication to National Assembly in order to promote and encourage the prisonization of Child National Law reform process in order to approve a quality law in spite of the emergency.

Spokesperson for national office is Janet Cruz – Country Director / jcruz@childfund.org (593) 90678913

In her absence Daniela Naranjo - Advocacy and Communication specialist / dnaranjo@childfund.org (593) 984620882

Support needed or requested from IO, GSS or Global Teams – whether onsite or remote.

Sponsorship

- Special requests are going to have a considerable delay so changes on standards should be considered.
- Guidelines about sharing pictures or videos from sponsored children instead of written letters.
- **Protocols and guidelines for the correct management of social media and web page regarding sponsorship**